

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 06103 031350Z

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, SP

SUBJ: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARMS IMPORTATION

REF: STATE 177789

1. THE BASIC LAW GOVERNING ARMS IMPORTS INTO SPAIN IS THE REGULATION ON ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES OF THE PRESIDENCY OF GOVERNMENT OF 27 DEC 1944 WHICH COVERS ALL ARMS TRANSACTIONS IN THE COUNTRY. THE REGULATION REQUIRES ALL ARMS DEALERS TO BE AUTHORIZED BY THE MINISTRIES OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND THE ARMY. ARTICLE 39 OF THE REGULATION REQUIRES ARMS IMPORTS TO BE APPROVED BY THE MINISTRY OF THE ARMY.

2. AN OFFICIAL RESOLUTION OF 18 OCT 1974 INCORPORATED ARMS AND AMMUNITION INTO THE GLOBALIZED QUOTA IMPORT REGIMEN. THIS REQUIRES A SPECIFIC LICENSE UNDER THIS REGIMEN FOR EACH IMPORT OF ARMS.

3. UNDER PREVAILING REGULATIONS THE PROCEDURE FOR IMPORTING ARMS INTO SPAIN IS AS FOLLOWS: A. ONLY AUTHORIZED ARMS DEALERS MAY IMPORT ARMS; B. THE DEALER APPLIES TO THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE FOR A LICENSE TO IMPORT ARMS UNDER THE GLOBAL QUOTA REGIMEN; C. IF THE APPLICATION MEETS ALL OTHER CRITERIA, COMMERCE SENDS IT TO THE MINISTRY OF ARMY FOR APPROVAL; D. IF ARMY APPROVES, THEN COMMERCE ISSUES THE
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MADRID 06103 031350Z

DEALER THE APPROPRIATE LICENSE.

4. THERE IS NO REASON US EXPORTERS CANNOT ASK FOR COPIES OF LICENSES GRANTED SPANISH COMMERCIAL CONSIGNEES TO IMPORT ARMS. A COPY OF THIS LICENSE ESTABLISHES GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL OF THE TRANSACTION.

5. DISPOSITION OF IMPORTED ARMS IS COVERED GENERALLY BY THE REGULATION ON ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES. HOWEVER, PURCHASE AND OWNERSHIP OF HUNTING WEAPONS IS SPECIFICALLY REGULATED BY DECREE 2122 OF 21 JULY 1972 OF THE MINISTRY OF GOVERNMENT WHICH LIMITS OWNERSHIP OF THESE ARMS TO THOSE OBTAINING PERMITS FROM LOCAL POLICE AUTHORITIES. THERE ARE TWO AGE CATEGORIES, 14 TO 21 YEARS OLD AND OVER 21. THE FORMER AGE GROUP IS LIMITED TO CERTAIN ARMS. DEALERS MAY ONLY SELL ARMS TO SPANISH NATIONALS AND FOREIGNERS WHO HOLD THESE PERMITS.
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